CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	Makeshift Arsenal
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1800622.055
Medium:	Text File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	English
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	18 June 2019
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	18 June 2019

Summary of reasons for decision:

The text file contains instructions on how to make explosive devices and restricted substances. While not all of the items included in the file could be successfully made if the instructions were followed, the dominant effect of the file as a whole is of a collection of subversive instructions that encourage criminal activity to a high degree. The publication's availability poses a high risk of injury to the public good that cannot be mitigated by an age restriction because of the way it promotes and encourages the creation of legally restricted devices and substances that can only have a criminal application. Although most reasonable New Zealanders would be unlikely to attempt to make these substances and devices, they are not the intended audience for the publication. The likelihood of injury arises from its availability to those with malicious intent. The publication is intended to instruct on how to make weapons which have no legitimate purpose other than to cause serious physical harm or property damage. Of further concern is the high risk of physical injury, or even death, to those assembling these and to anyone targeted by them. The objectionable classification limits the right to freedom of expression contained in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, it is a reasonable and justified limitation given the high risk of injury to the public good from the publication's availability.